MARVEL®
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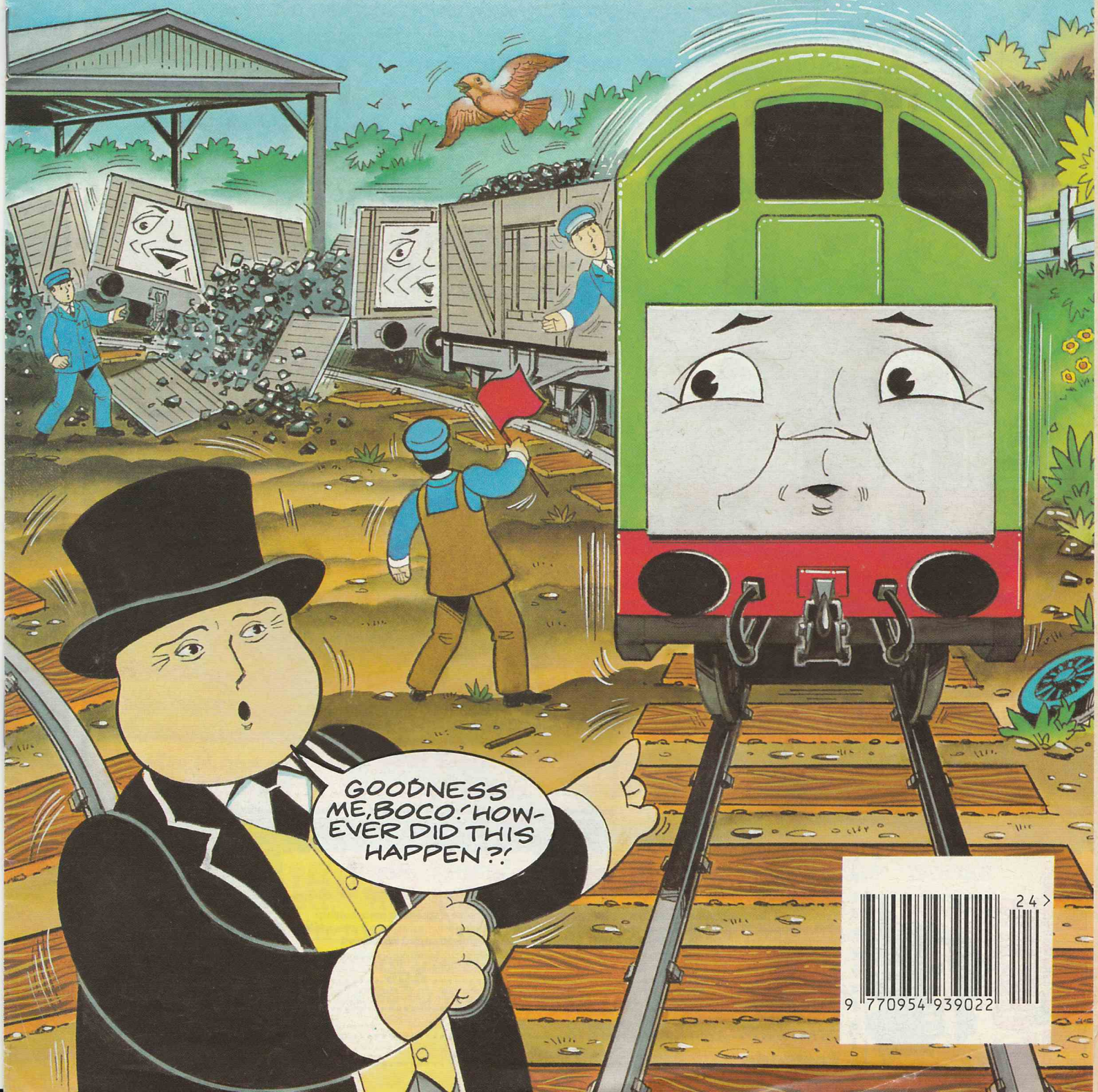
No. 96 50p

# THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry

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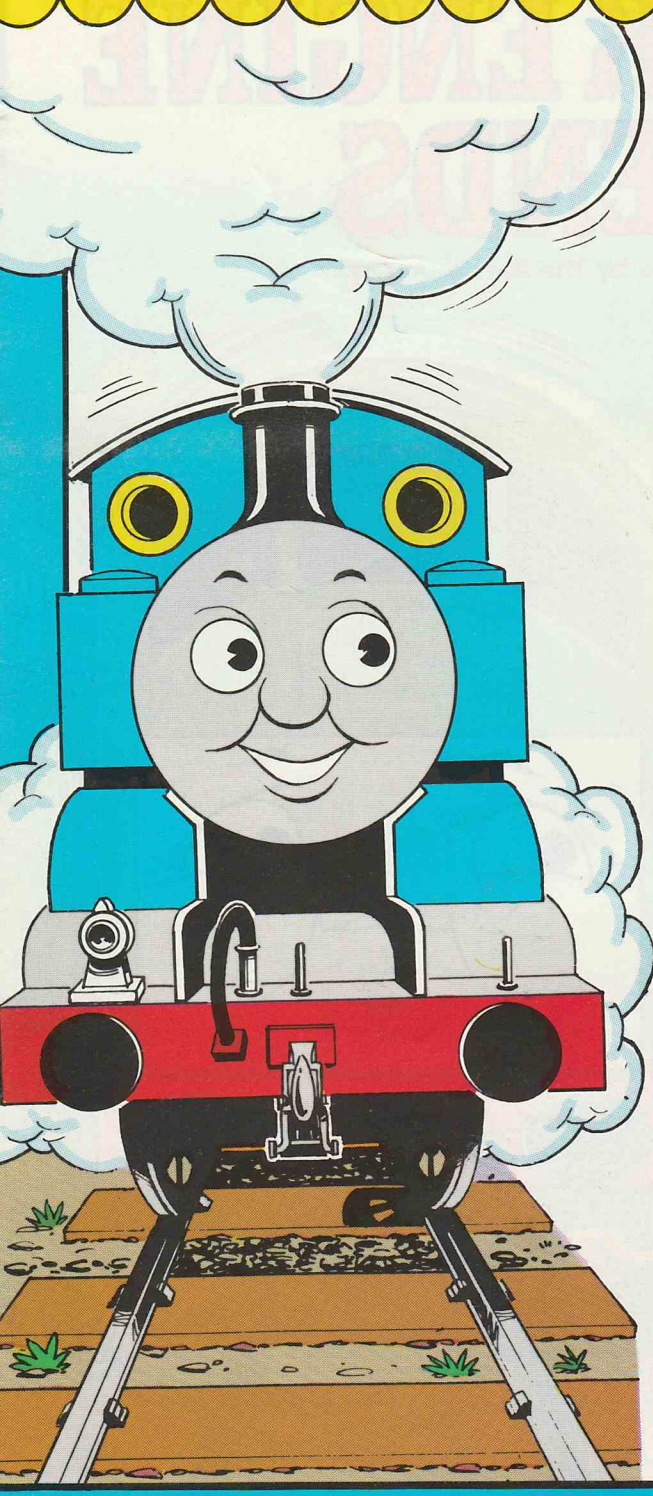
# THE THOMAS CLUB PAGE



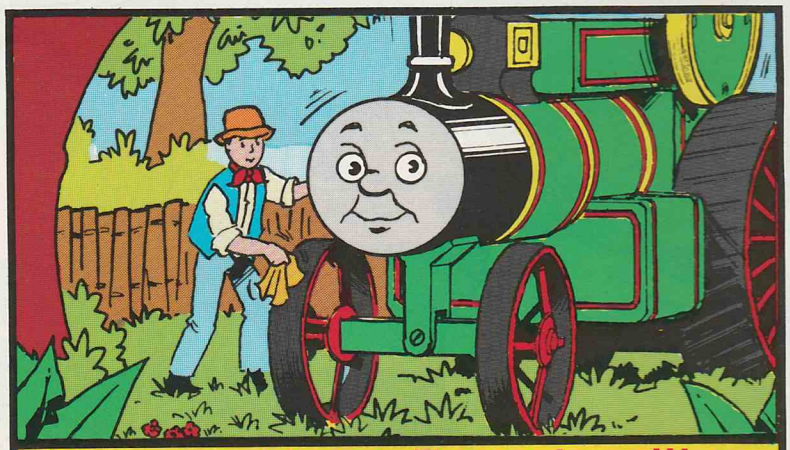
**Peep! Peep! Boco is a very busy diesel engine who usually pulls his trucks to and from the Main Harbour! Quite often though, the trucks are very troublesome and cause havoc on the line. One day the trucks make Boco very sad indeed! However, one of his good friends soon makes him happier! You can find out what happens on the next page! Peep! Peep!**

## SPLENDID COMPETITION!

In our next issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends**, there will be a splendid competition to win the following prizes: Six **Hornby Thomas the Tank Engine** train sets and fifty **Best of Thomas the Tank Engine** videos! Don't miss it!

## THOMAS ON TELEVISION!

You can see Thomas's splendid adventures on ITV every Tuesday until August 27th.



**In our next issue: Trevor is getting ready for a big open day!**

THOMAS TOKEN

## JOIN THE THOMAS CLUB!

If you would like to become a member of the **Thomas Club** and receive a splendid membership card, just collect 3 tokens like the one adjacent to this section. Send one **red**, **yellow** and **green** token together with one completed coupon (below), listing your details plus stamped addressed envelope, to: *Thomas Membership Cards, Marvel Comics Ltd, 13-15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*

**Name** ..... **Age** .....

**Address** .....

.....

**Postcode**..... **Date of birth**.....

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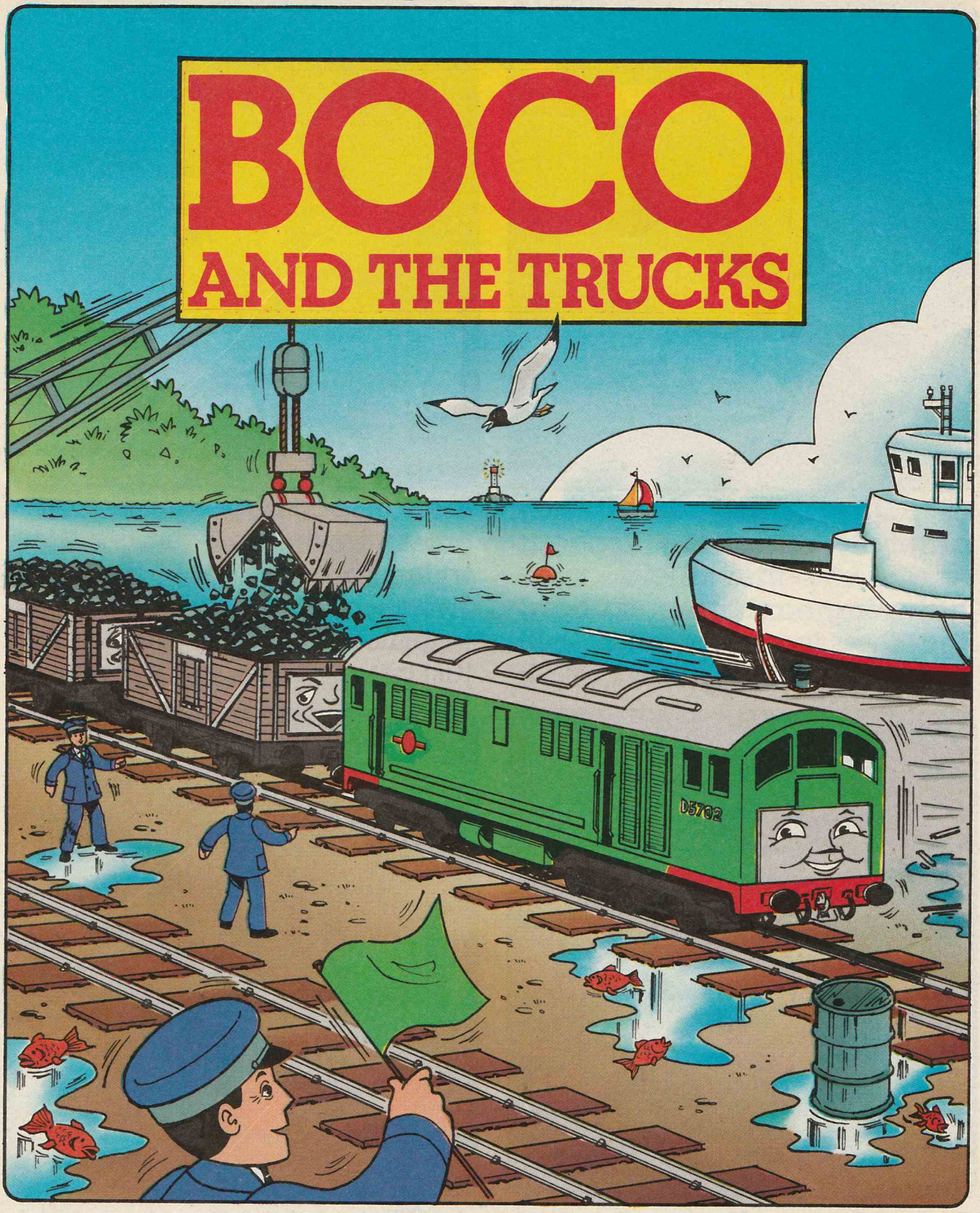
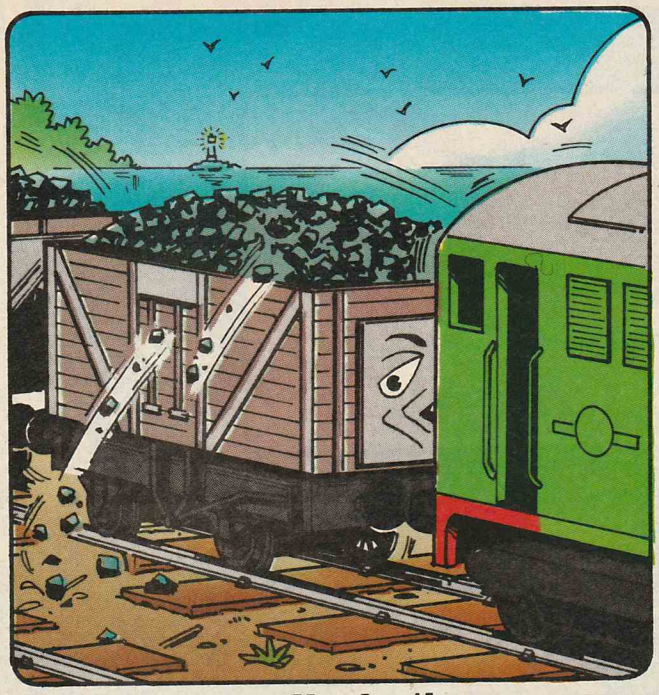
## A listen and look story!

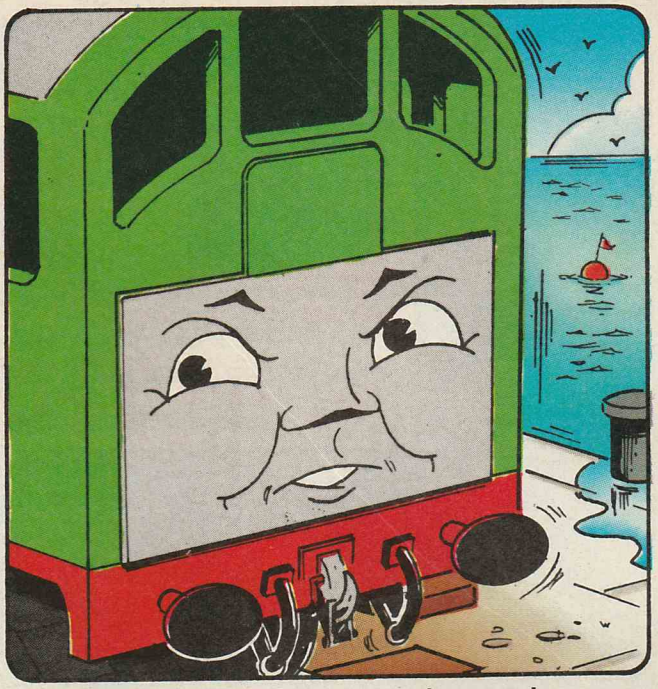



1. Boco is a very busy diesel engine indeed. He pulls trucks, filled with many different loads, to and from the Big Harbour Yard. He likes to work hard!

2. But one day, the trucks containing coal that Boco was pulling from the harbour to the Main Station Yard were behaving very badly. They were being very troublesome.

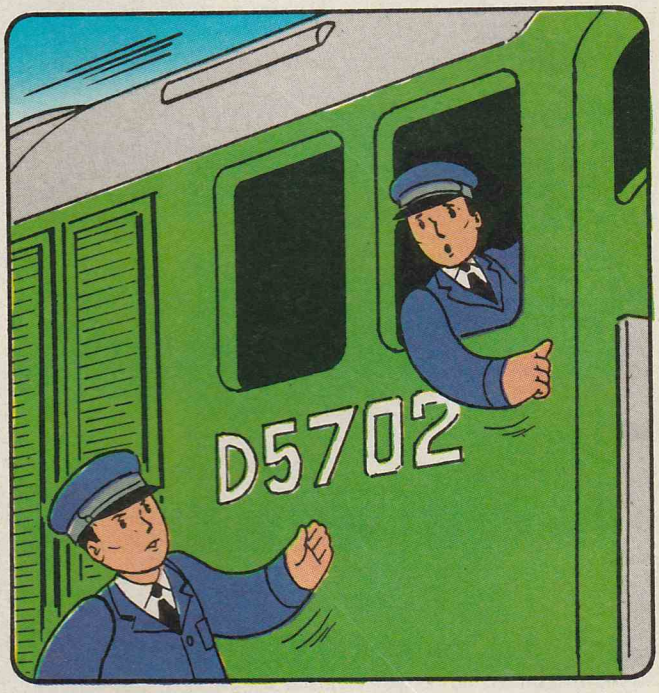


3. Boco pulled them very carefully out of the harbour yard. But the trucks were bumping each other so hard that their loads began to spill onto the tracks.

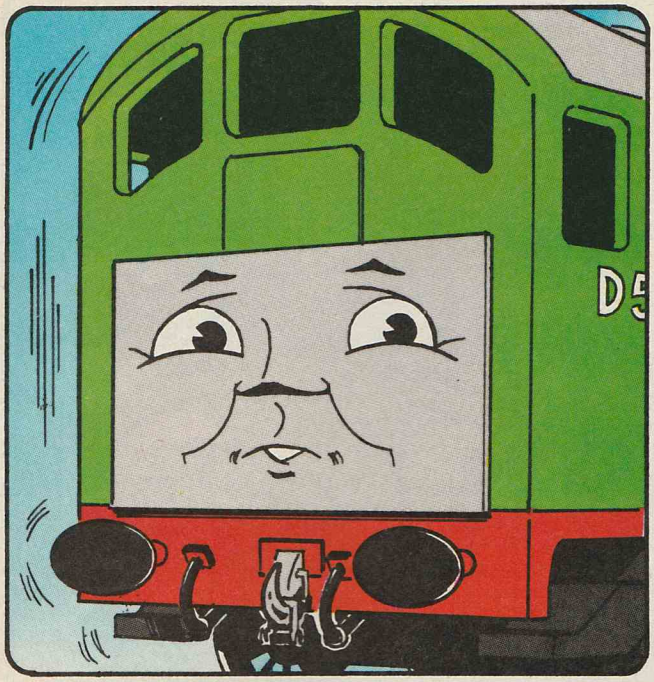


4. Poor Boco began to get very cross with the trucks. "I'm trying to be patient!" he said. "Why are you being so troublesome?" But the trucks just chuckled mischievously.

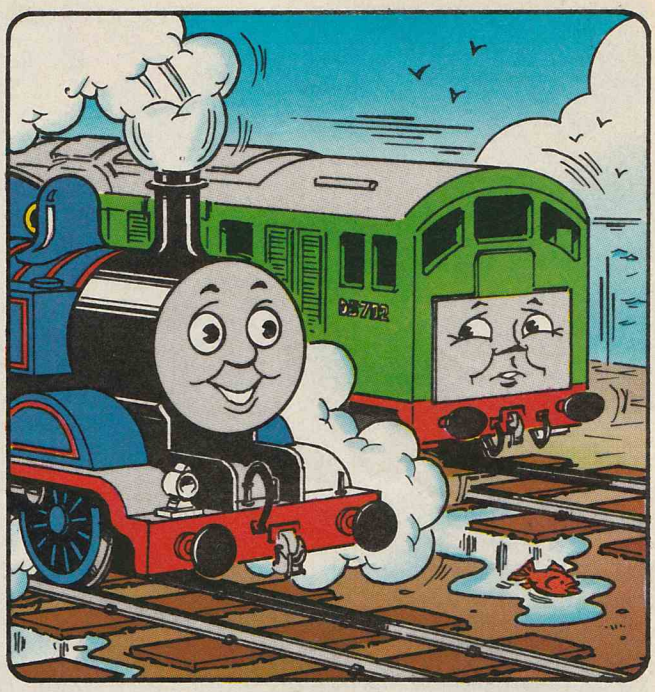
5. The Station Harbourmaster saw the coal on the line and called to Boco's driver. "Stop! Boco must pull the trucks more gently! This mess will never do!"



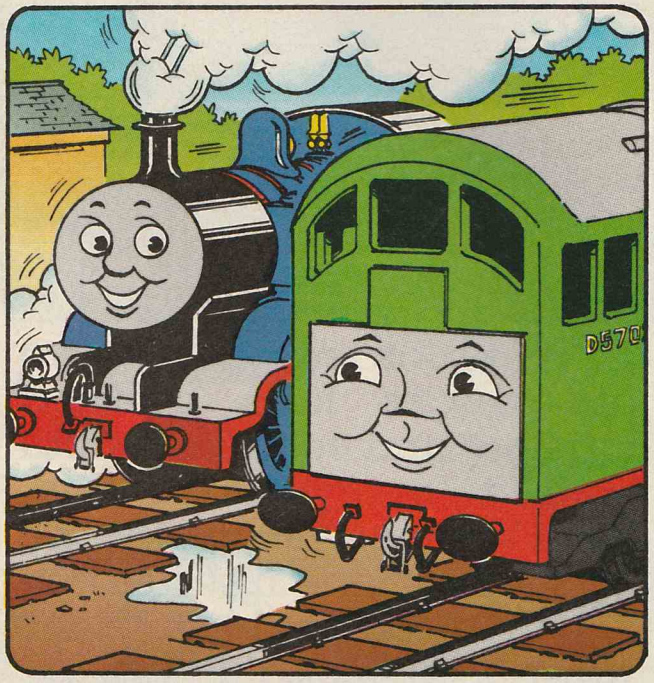

6. "I'll use less throttle," said Boco's driver. "But that will slow Boco down," replied the Station Harbourmaster, frowning. "We are already quite late with these trucks!"



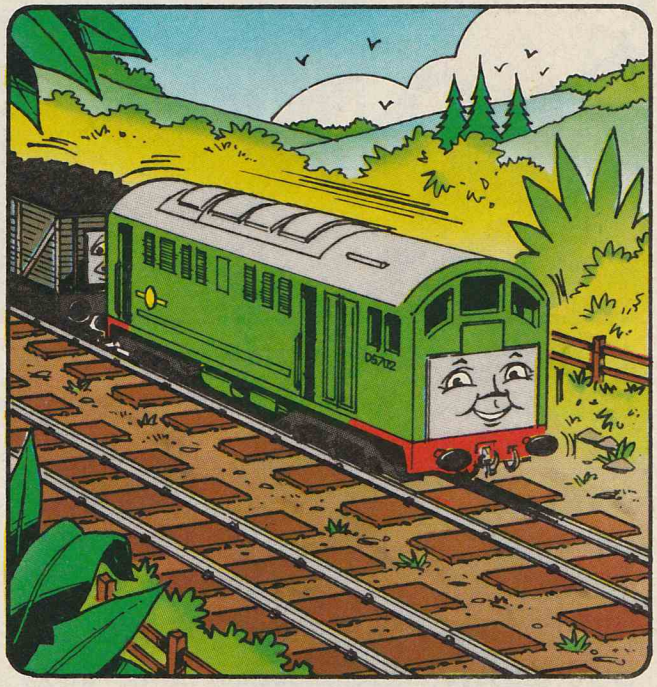
7. Boco thought it was very unfair to be blamed for something that the naughty trucks had done. "Oh dear, I do wish these trucks would behave," sighed Boco.



8. Just then, Thomas pulled up alongside Boco. "Why do you look sad, Boco?" asked Thomas. Boco told Thomas about the naughty trucks. "Don't worry," said Thomas.



9. "If your trucks are behaving badly, they'll soon be in trouble with the Fat Controller," continued Thomas. Boco felt much better after talking to his good friend.



10. Boco moved off again and even though the trucks continued to bump him, he pulled them as determindly as he could all the way to the Main Station Yard.

11. Boco was relieved to arrive in the yard. "Can I have a short rest before my next train?" he asked. "Oh, yes," replied Boco's driver, who was already uncoupling Boco from the long line of trucks. Suddenly, they heard a very loud noise! **Crack**! Followed by another strange sound! **Whooosh**! Everyone wondered what it was!

12. They soon realised that two old trucks had banged together and collapsed. Coal spilled everywhere! "Oh, dear," sighed Boco. "I'll be blamed for this!" Just then, the Fat Controller arrived. "Don't worry Boco," he said. "You are a good engine! This accident happened because the trucks were naughty! Now these two trucks are only fit for scrap!"

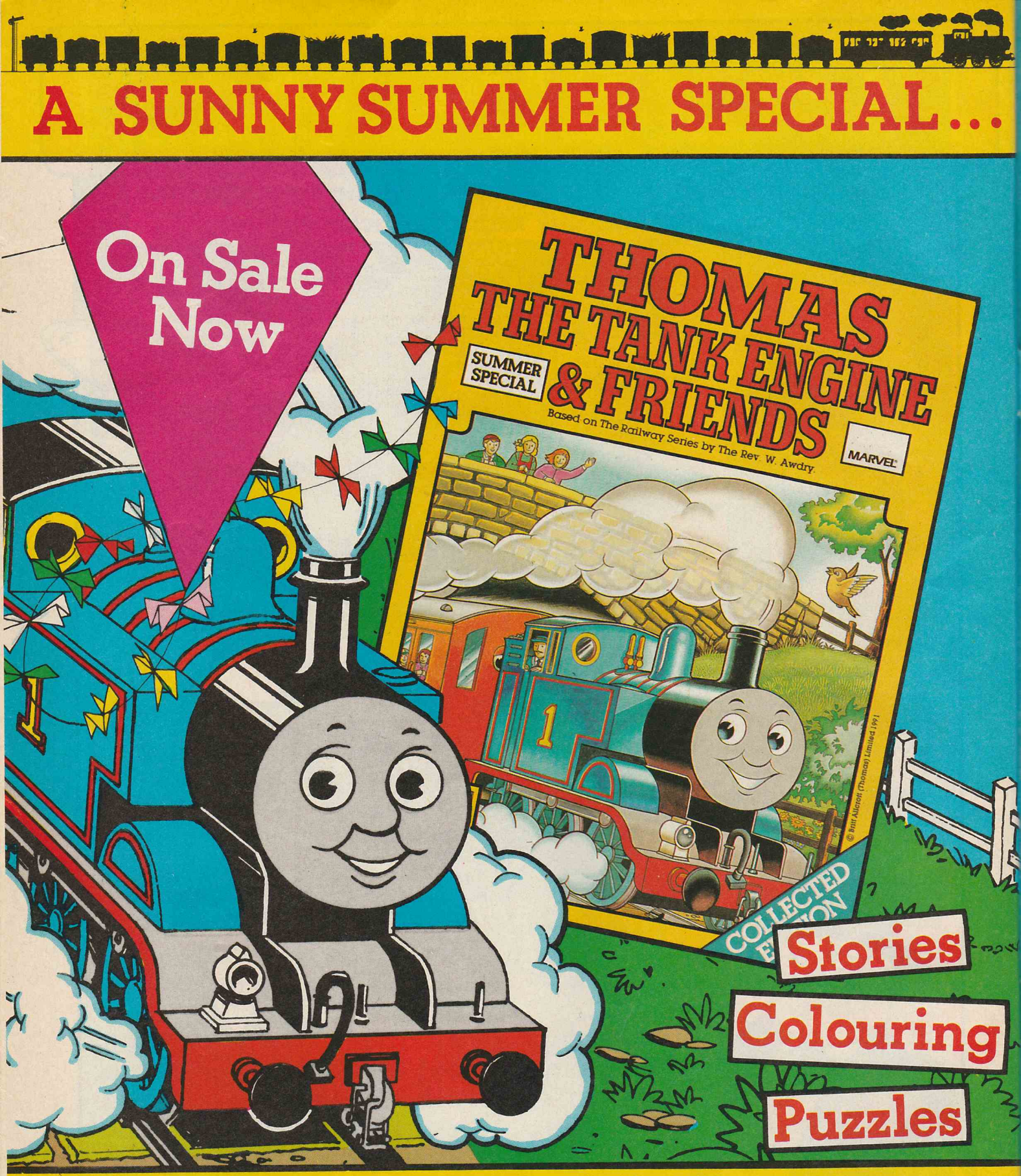
THE END

**In our next issue: Trevor's big day!**

# PUZZLE TIME!

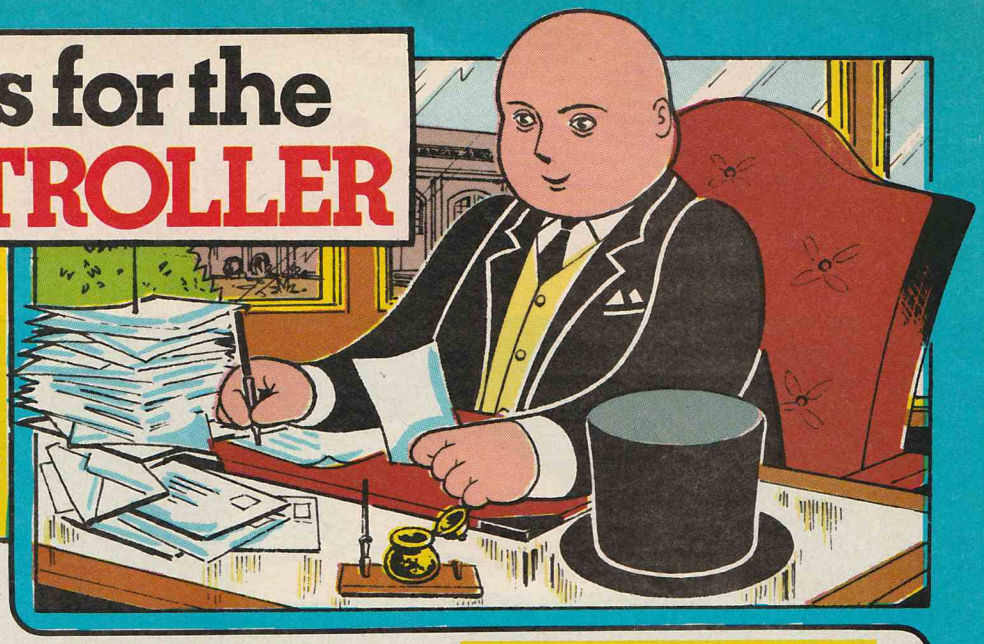
**Look at this splendid puzzle! Lot's of things are attached to strings, but who's got what?**

# A SUNNY SUMMER SPECIAL...




# ...COMING YOUR WAY!

# Your letters for the FAT CONTROLLER



**Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas or his friends? If so, then write to me at the address shown below! I would be so very pleased to hear from you!**

## STAR LETTER!

**Dear Fat Controller,**
I love **Thomas the Tank Engine** so much that I call Mummy 'Big Engine', Daddy 'The Fat Controller', my little brother James, a 'Trainee Troublesome Truck' and I am a 'Very Troublesome Truck'. Sometimes when I'm naughty, I get bricked up in my tunnel, just like Henry! (It's made from settee cushions really!)

Love from **Emma**, aged 2.

***Upon my soul*** *It sounds as if your whole family enjoy pretending to be on my railway. I do hope that you are never bricked up for too long in your tunnel of cushions though!*

The sender of any letter that is printed as our **STAR LETTER** will win a splendid remote control **Thomas the Tank Engine** from *ERTL (UK) Ltd.*

## A FISHY BUSINESS!

**Dear Fat Controller,**
For an Easter present, Auntie Pat bought me two goldfish! I decided to call them Bill and Ben as they are the same colour as the twin tank engines. Have you any goldfish?

Lots of love from **Ben.**
(Mem. no. 35204).

*No, I don't keep goldfish. However, there is a lovely fish pond on the Island of Sodor which Lady Hatt and myself often visit to see the goldfish and frogs.*

## HOSPITAL FUN!

**Dear Fat Controller,**
A few weeks ago I broke my leg. I had to stay in hospital for 6 weeks. I made new friends and had lots of fun. But best of all my mum read lots of stories about Thomas and his friends. Thanks Thomas, for helping to make me smile!

Love from **Paul,** aged 2.

*Dear me, Paul... I do hope that you are recovering nicely now from your injury! Thomas was ever so pleased when he heard that he made you feel happier. You certainly have brought a smile to Thomas's face!*

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Special birthday wishes go out to the following readers...

**Ashley Thomas Waters, Stephen Medland (28686), Mark Turner, Christopher Bramhill (32106), Alexandra Staines, Melissa Parker, Michael Lee Jankowski (33407), Michael Kilburn, Christopher Durnford (35288,), Marcus Farthing, Kristopher Bramwell (35122), Neil Holbrook, Rosina McRobert (29627), Robert Butler, Jonathan Maginess (35750), Ben Cole Piper and Jonathan Griffin.**

If you would like a birthday mention printed in one of our future issues, please send details on a postcard or the back of a sealed envelope at least **9 weeks in advance.** We cannot promise to print all the birthdays, but we will do our very best.

**Yours,**

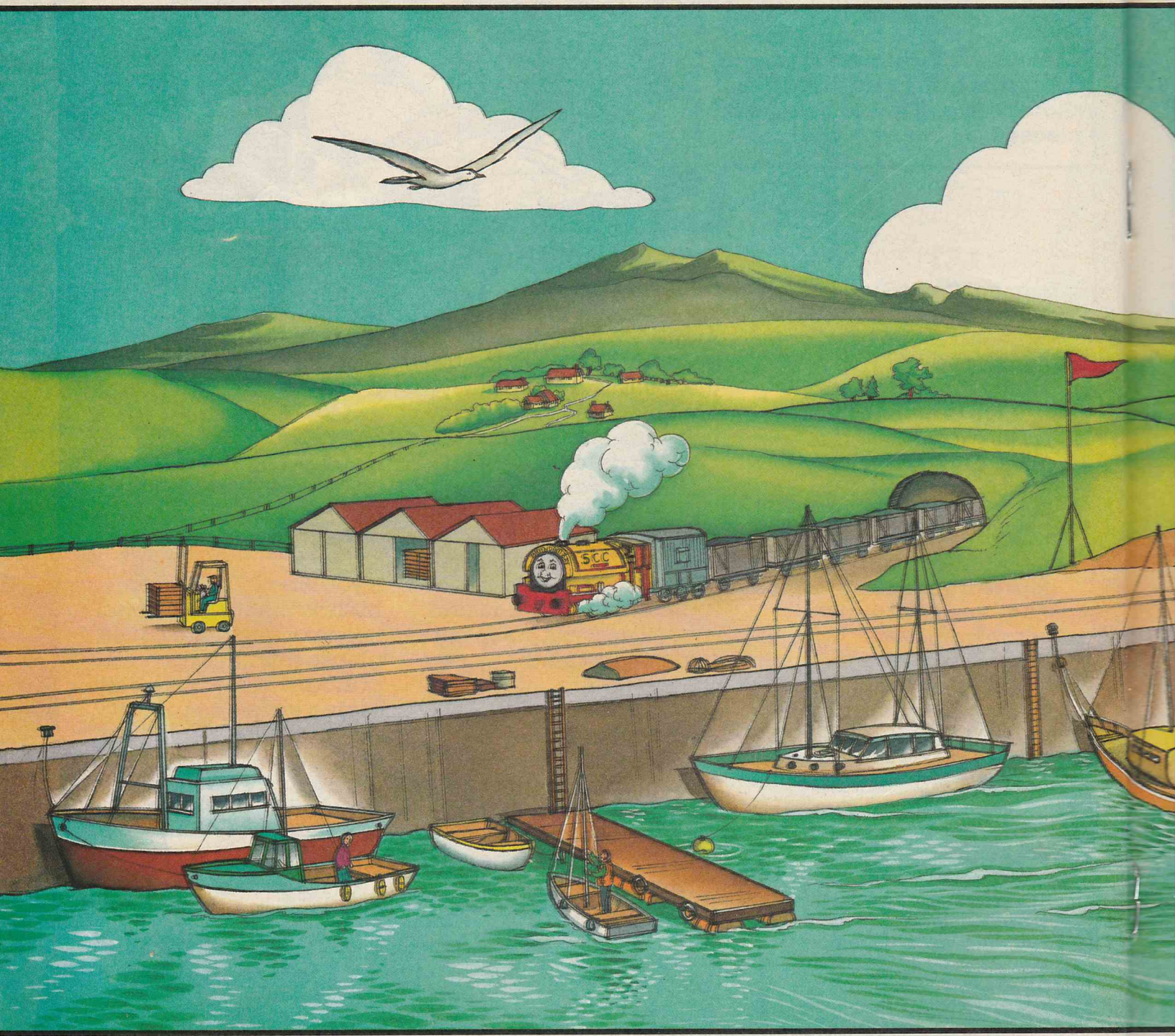
Sir Topham Hatt.

**the Fat Controller.**

**Send your letters to:**

**The Fat Controller**
**The Island of Sodor**
**c/o Marvel Comics Ltd**
**13/15 Arundel Street**
**London WC2.**

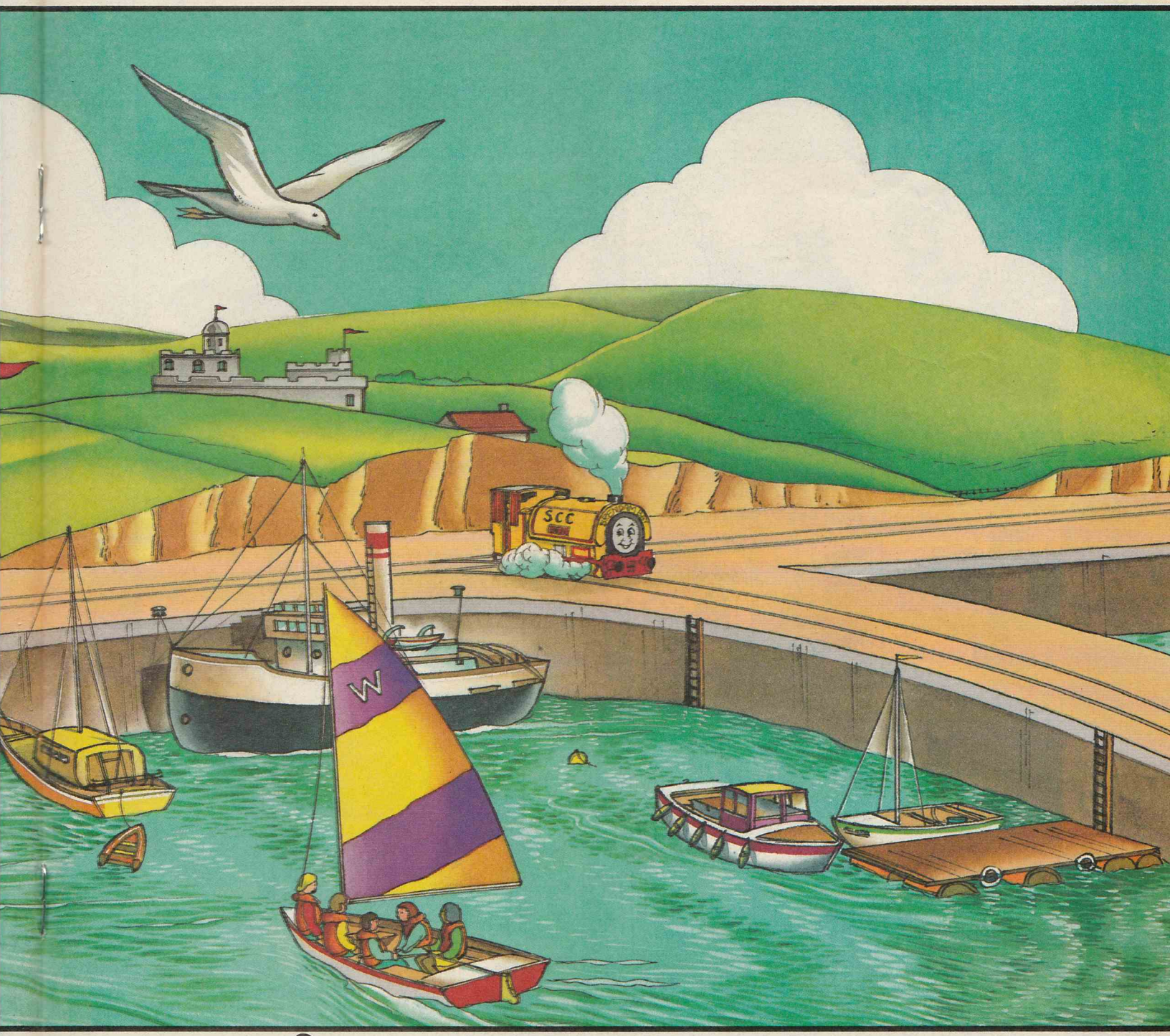
# Around the




Which two twin engines can you see?
Are they both pulling trucks?
Point to the tunnel in the hillside!
How many flags can you count?

What colour are they?
How many people are
Which letter of the alph
Point to the two seagul

# e marina!




ney?

e are sailing in the red boat?

e alphabet is printed on the sail?

agulls!

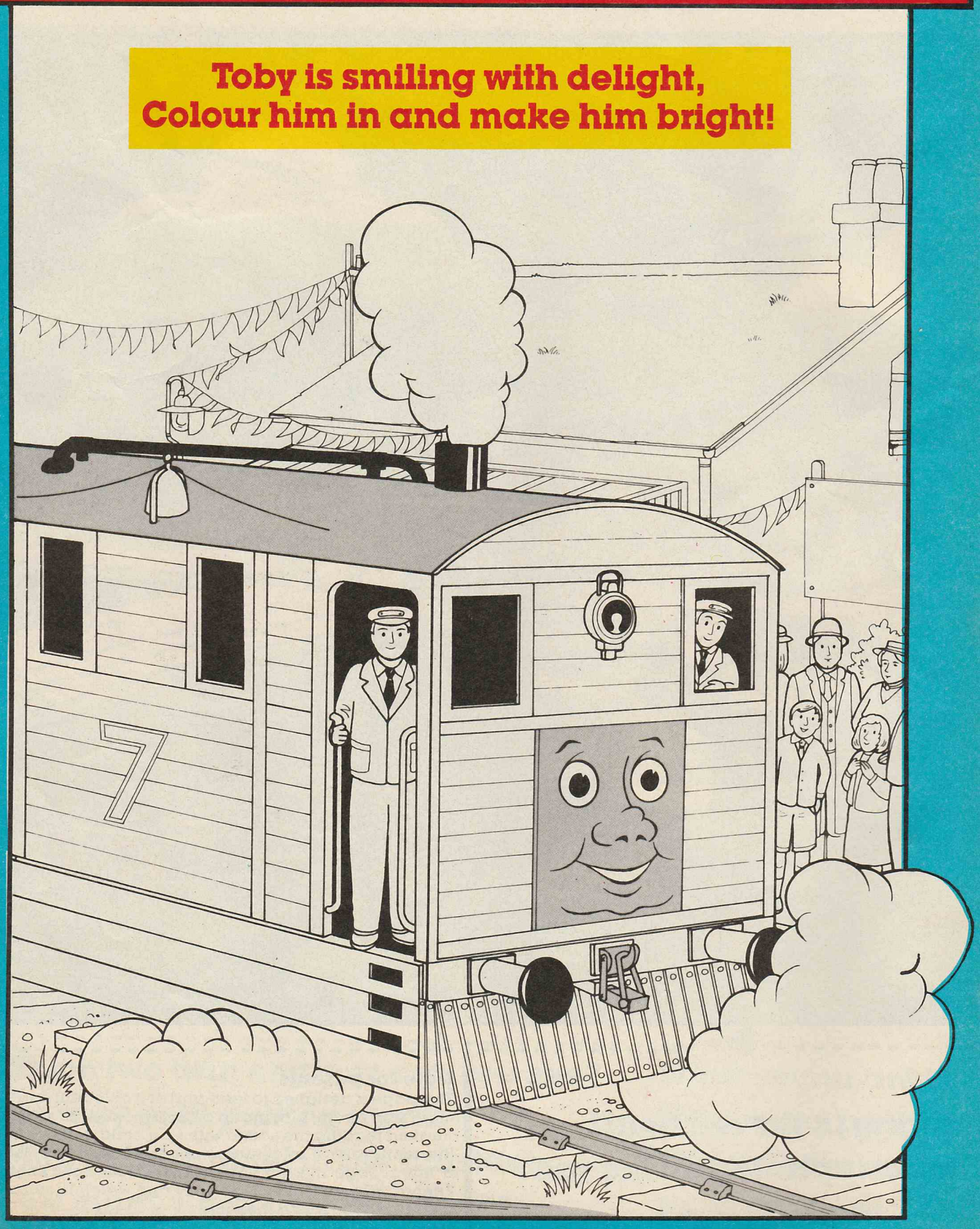
**Note for parents**

This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the comic with your child, remove this part of the centrespread by cutting along the dotted line. There will be a 'mural page' in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends.** Why not collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room!

**Next issue: Past the jetty!**

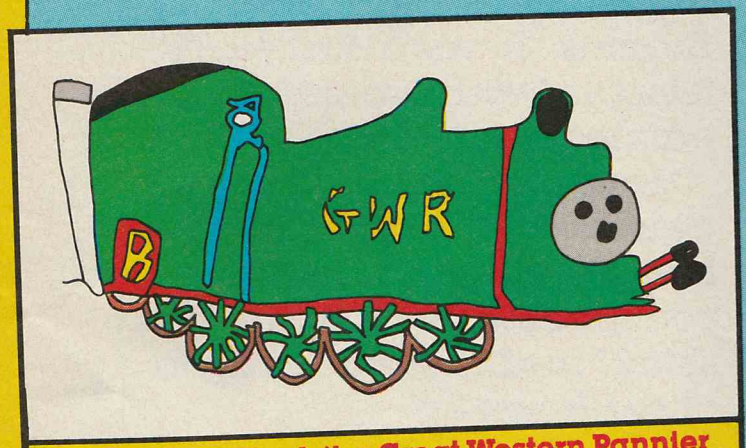
# COLOURING TIME!

**Toby is smiling with delight,**
**Colour him in and make him bright!**



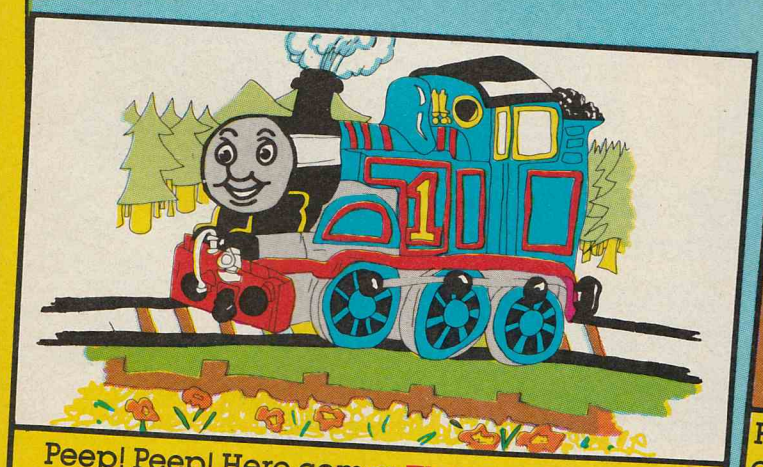
# YOUR DRAWINGS for the Fat Controller

**Here are some of the many splendid drawings that you have sent in to us. Can you see your picture?!**




Can you see **Duck** the **Great Western Pannier Engine** steaming past a colourful field. This splendid picture was sent in by **Rachael Brooke**, aged 5.

Here is a splendid picture of **Thomas the Tank Engine** steaming into a dark tunnel. This charming picture was sent in by **Paul Coxwell**, aged 6.



Peep! Peep! Here comes **Thomas the Tank Engine** steaming down the branch line! Congratulations go out to **Faye Davies**, for a most excellent drawing!

Here we can see **Daisy** and **Boco** passing each other on the bridge. This super drawing was sent in by **Robert Johnson**, aged 7. His membership number is 3807.

**Thank you all for sending in your lovely pictures – sorry that we don't have enough room to print them all in this issue! If you would like to draw a picture and have a chance of seeing it printed in one of our future issues, please send it to: *The Fat Controller (Pictures Page), The Island of Sodor, Marvel Comics Ltd, 13-15 Arundel Street, London WC2.***

A read-aloud story!

# Thomas and Trevor

"I do look smart! I do look smart!" sang Thomas happily, as he puffed along his branch line, one morning. And no wonder! As a special treat for working so hard, the Fat Controller had sent Thomas into the Maintenance Shed to be painted. Now, Thomas's shiny new paintwork was bright and dry and he felt very proud, indeed.

Further on down the line, Thomas neared the Vicarage Orchard, where his friend Trevor the Traction Engine lives. Trevor used to work on the farms and pull heavy loads. But now he spends most of his time in the orchard, watching his friends go past.

"I will show Trevor my new coat of paint," said Thomas, as he slowed down by Trevor's shed.

paint

Of course, Trevor noticed Thomas's new paint straight away. "There was a time when I looked as smart as you," Trevor told Thomas. "It was at last year's fete. Oh, I wish I could be painted again!"

"I am sure Jem will have you painted for the next church fete. The children love to see your paintwork all bright and shiny," said Thomas, trying to cheer Trevor up.

"I don't think anyone will bother to paint me while I'm shut away in this shed," replied Trevor, sadly.

Thomas tried to make Trevor smile before he left. But he couldn't. When Thomas returned to the Main Station, he saw the Fat Controller with two young visitors.

"My grandchildren, Stephen and Bridget, have come to stay with for a holiday," the Fat Controller announced to all his engines. "They would like to paint a picture, but they can't decide which engine to paint!"

"I am the most important engine on the Fat Controller's railway, it must be me," boasted Gordon.

"But I am so thoroughly

modern," interrupted Daisy, the diesel railcar.

"Excuse me, sir," said Thomas, addressing the Fat Controller. "I know just the engine your grandchildren should paint. Perhaps I could take Stephen and Bridget for a ride in Annie and Clarabel to show them."

Stephen and Bridget were very excited. They took their paints, brushes and painting books with them and Thomas pulled them along his branch line. Soon, Thomas arrived at Trevor's shed.

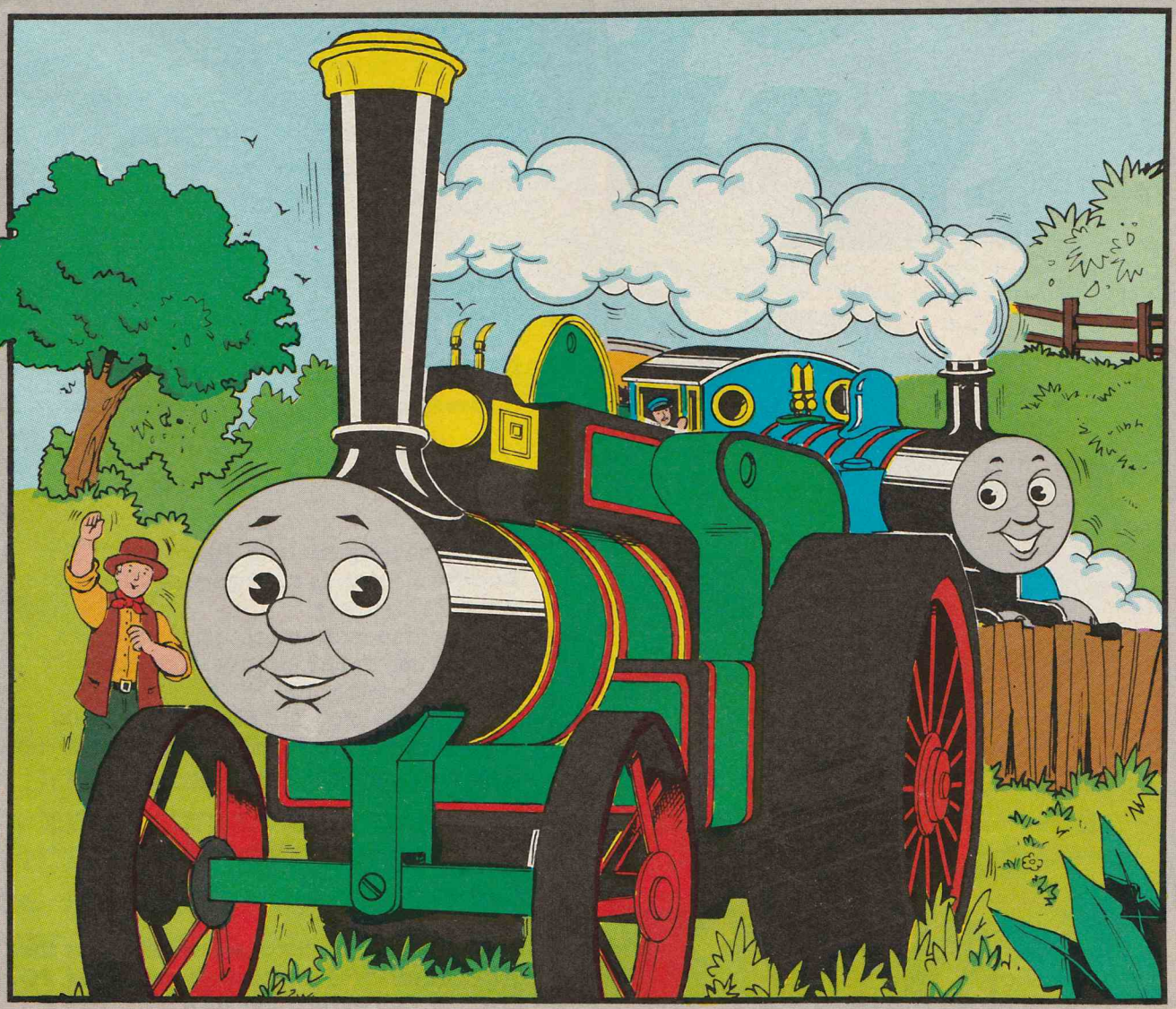
"What an unusual engine!" said Stephen, pointing to Trevor.

"He's a traction engine!" added Bridget. "He's the best engine to paint," the grandchildren agreed . "What a good idea, Thomas!"

"When we have finished our paintings, we can take them home and hang them up!" said Stephen.

Trevor was very pleased, too. He felt happy again. "Thanks to you, Thomas, I'm going to be painted, after all! " and everybody laughed.

**THE END**



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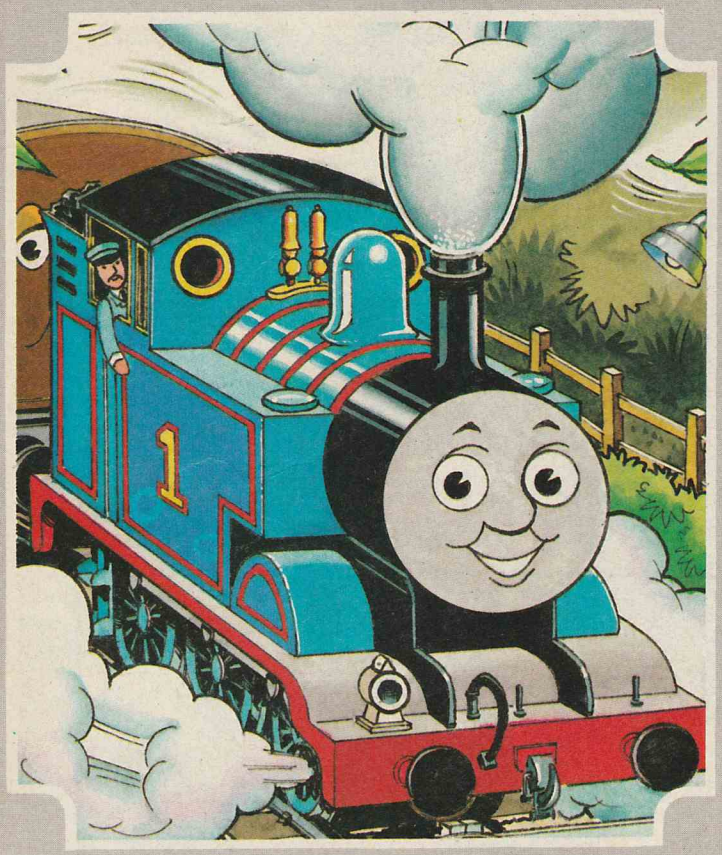


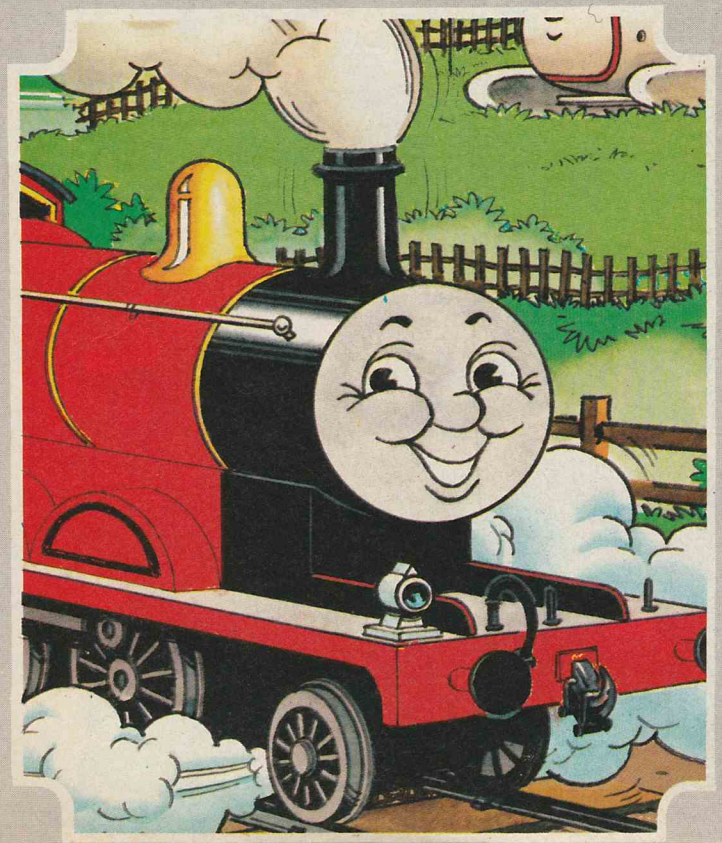

. . .to your child's favourite fortnightly magazine. . .

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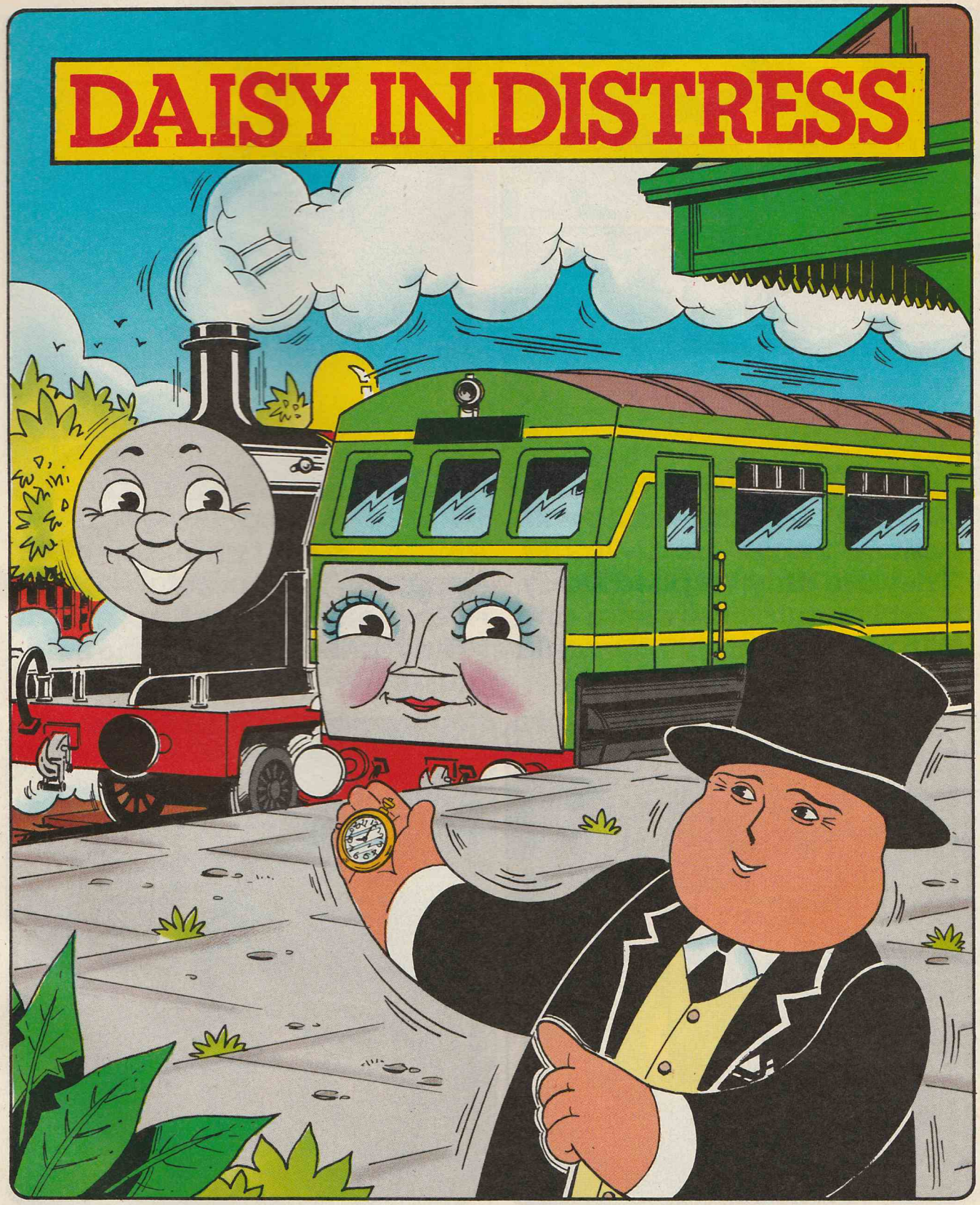
**Signature** ..... **Expiry date** .....

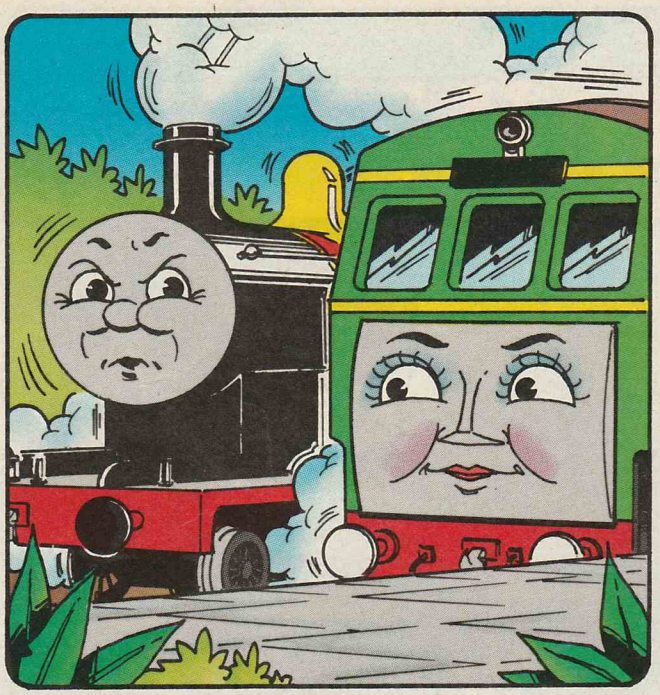
**Return form and payment to: *Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends Subscriptions, PO Box 500, Leicester, LE99 0AB.***

## A listen and look story!

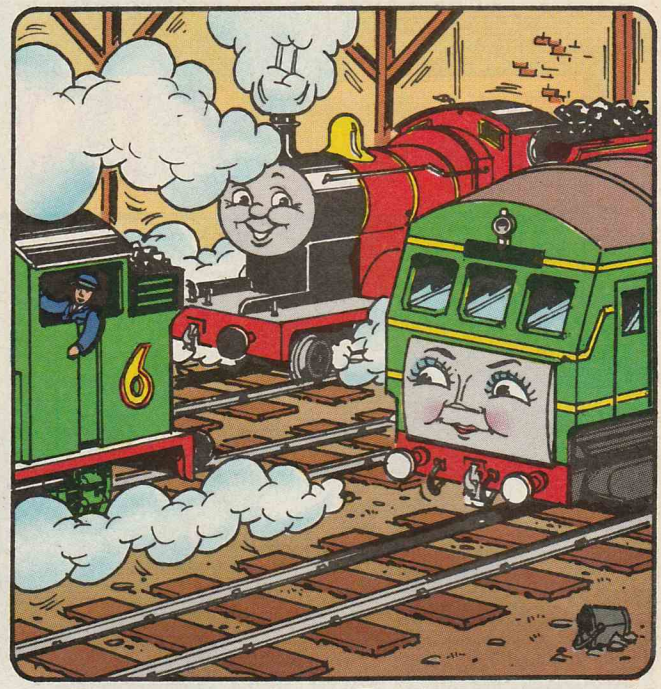



1. Daisy had just returned from Thomas's branch line. "Splendid, Daisy! Right on time!" said the Fat Controller. Daisy felt very pleased as she pulled into the station.

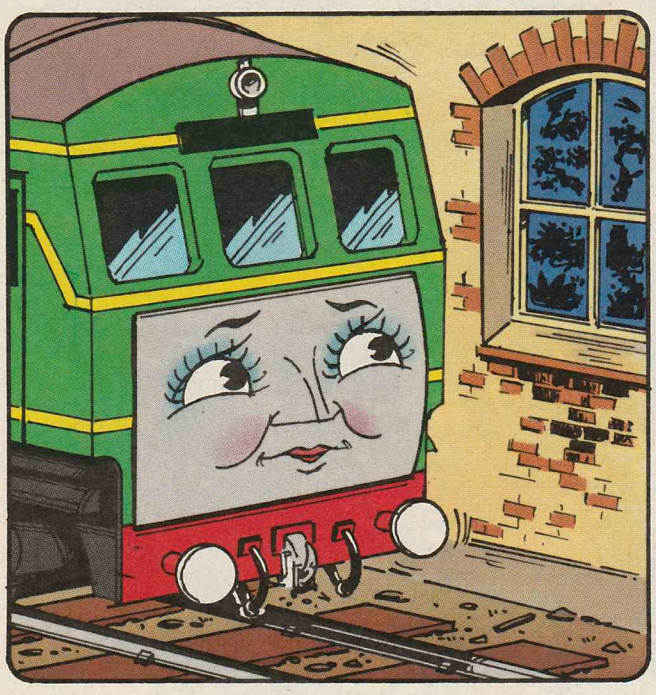
2. "I'm such a modern diesel railcar and ever so comfortable!" Daisy boasted to James, at the station. "That's why I only carry passengers and never pull trucks!"



3. "There's nothing wrong with pulling trucks!" said James. "They are dirty," replied Daisy. "And I'm much too clean and bang up to date! It would never do!"

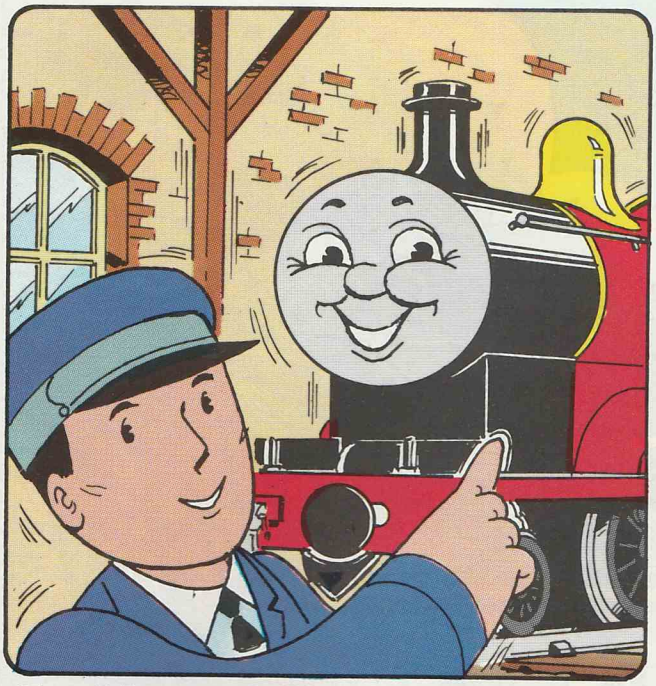


4. That evening, Daisy was put in the shed with the other engines. "Be careful not to blow out any soot from your dirty funnels on me!" she said, fussily.

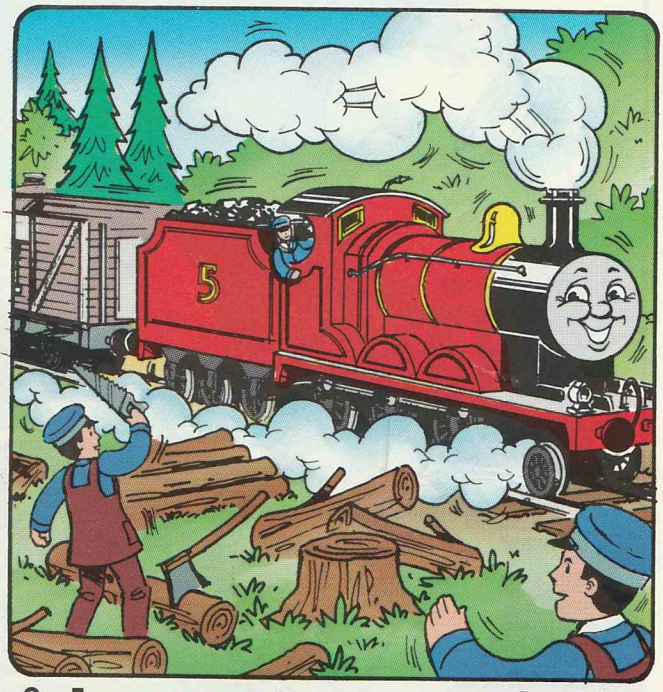


5. During the night, a bad storm struck the Island of Sodor. The wind howled! Now Daisy was pleased to be safe in the shed, with all the engines for company!

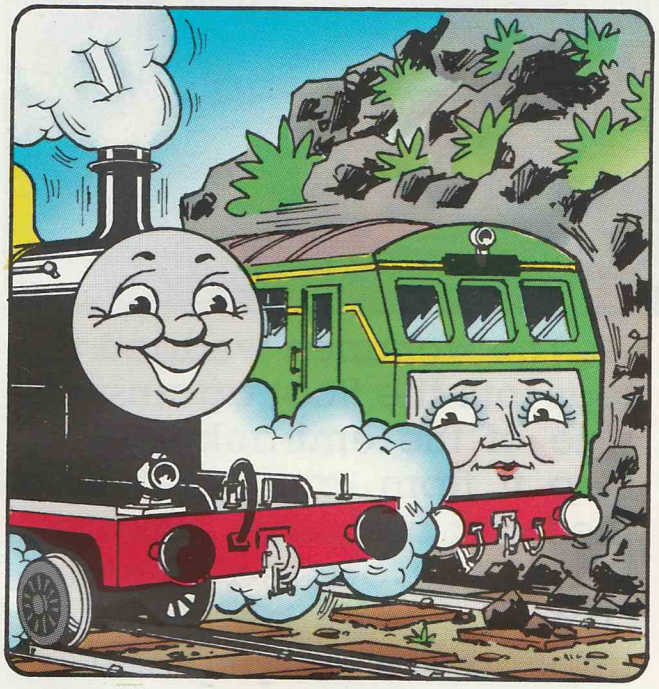
6. The next morning, Daisy rolled across the yard. She waited for the points to change, then pulled onto the branch line. "Make way!" she told the other engines.



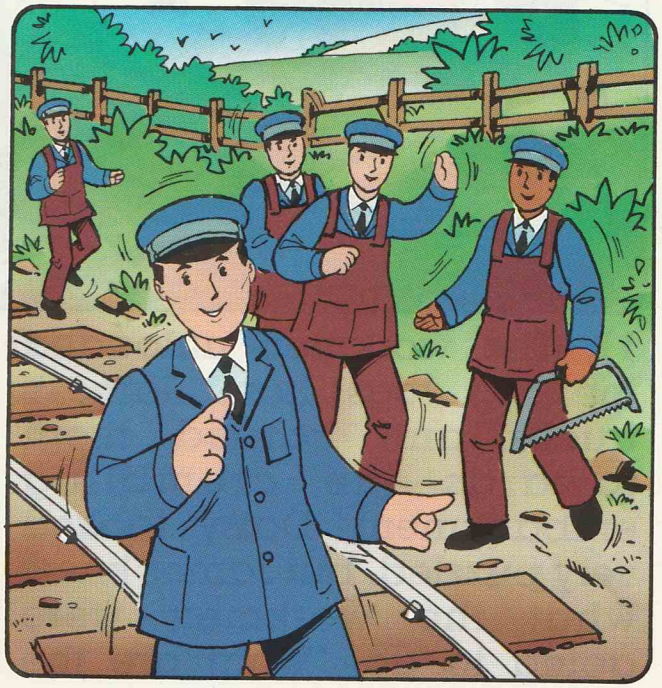
7. Meanwhile, James was working in the yard. "We've a special job today!" James's driver said. "Two big trees have blown down, by the line. We must collect them!"



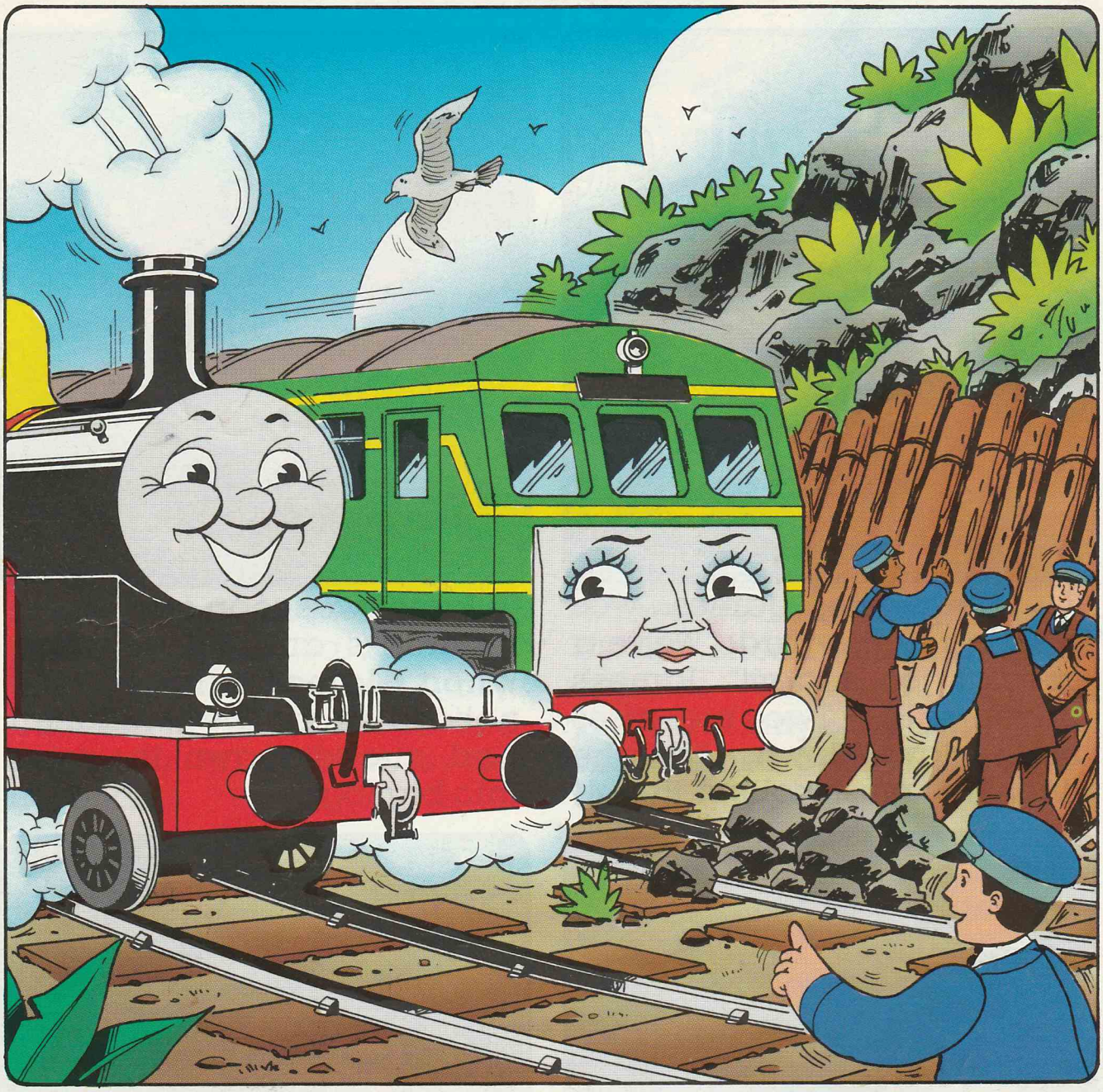

8. James was soon coupled to his trucks and off he went. When James arrived, he noticed that the workmen had already sawn the trees into big logs.



9. The trucks were loaded and James pulled away. Soon he met Daisy, who had stopped on the line ahead. "This embankment is crumbling," she said. "I can't go through!"



10. James's driver had an idea. He jumped down from the cab and quickly ran back along the line. Soon he reappeared with some of the workmen.



11. The workmen unloaded the big logs from James's trucks and carried them towards the crumbling embankment. Daisy looked very puzzled, but James knew what the workmen were going to do. "What are the workmen doing with those silly logs?" she asked, impatiently. "Doesn't anyone care about my passengers?"

12. The workmen wedged the logs into the floor against the side of the embankment, to stop it from crumbling onto the track any more. "You see, Daisy," boasted James, "trucks can be just as important as carrying passengers. If it weren't for my load, you wouldn't be able to continue your journey!" Daisy agreed and pulled away.

**THE END**



**In our next issue: Thomas, Daisy and the Water Mill!**